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(54) **RESECTION DEVICES AND RELATED METHODS OF DEPLOYMENT**

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A61B 1/018 (2006.01)
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A61B 1/00 (2006.01)
A61B 17/221 (2006.01)
A61B 17/00 (2006.01)
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(52) **U.S. Cl.**
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See application file for complete search history.

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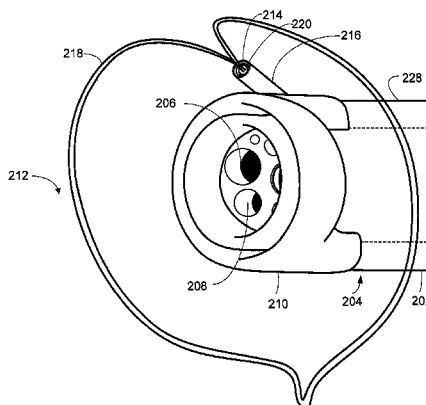
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A medical/surgical device for performing tissue resection can include an endoscope with proximal and distal ends, defining working channels, and a snare assembly located in one of the working channels. The working channel may include a bend near the distal end and towards the outward radial wall of the endoscope. The snare assembly may include a snare loop and an actuation element imparted with the pre-formed angular bends and an actuation control handle. The bends of the actuation element and the working channel may be the same. The rotational manipulation of the actuation element may synchronize the pre-formed bend of the actuation element with the bend of the working channel to concentrically (or otherwise) align the deployed snare loop with the endoscope or endoscope attachments.

20 Claims, 4 Drawing Sheets



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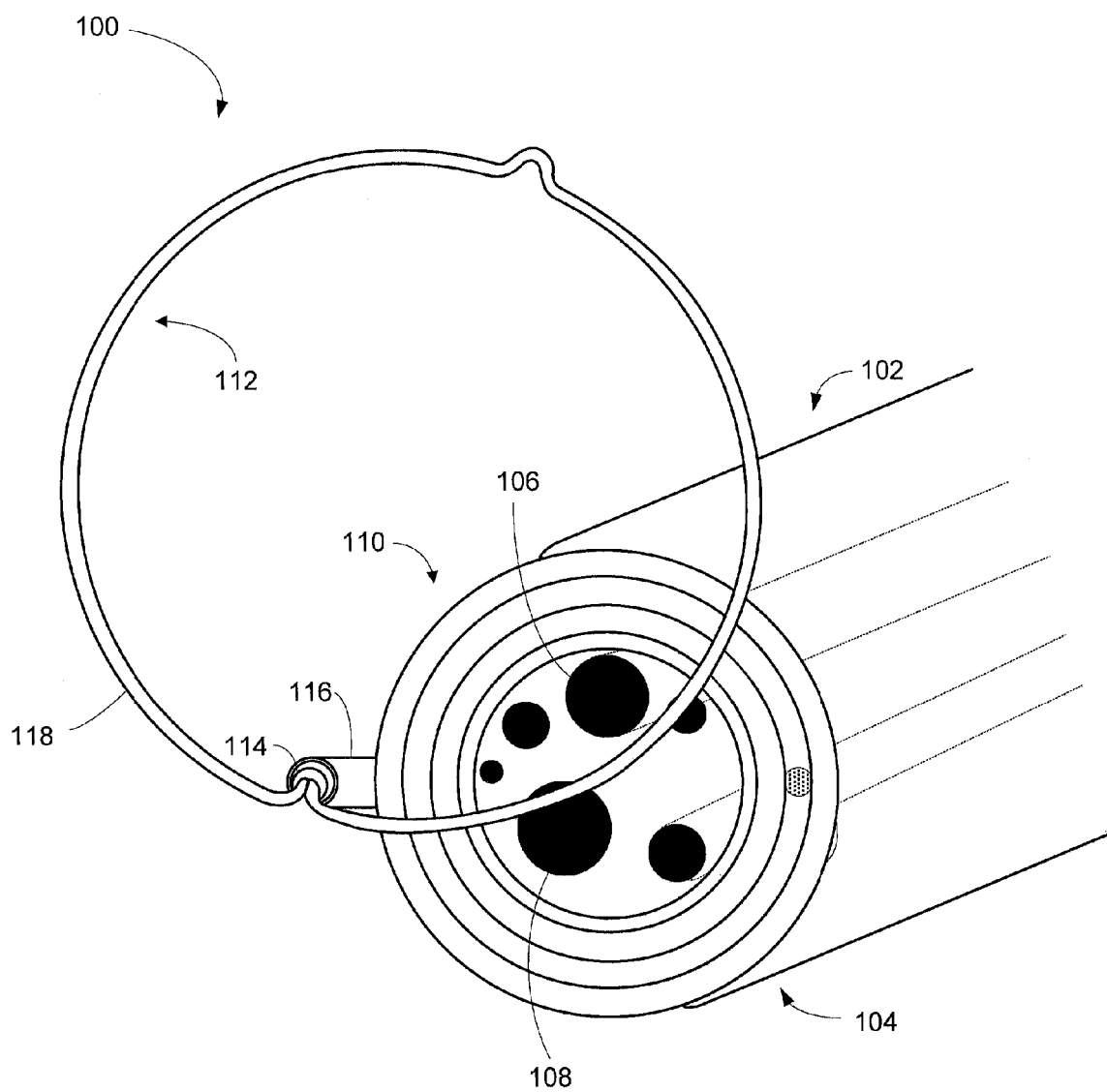


FIG. 1

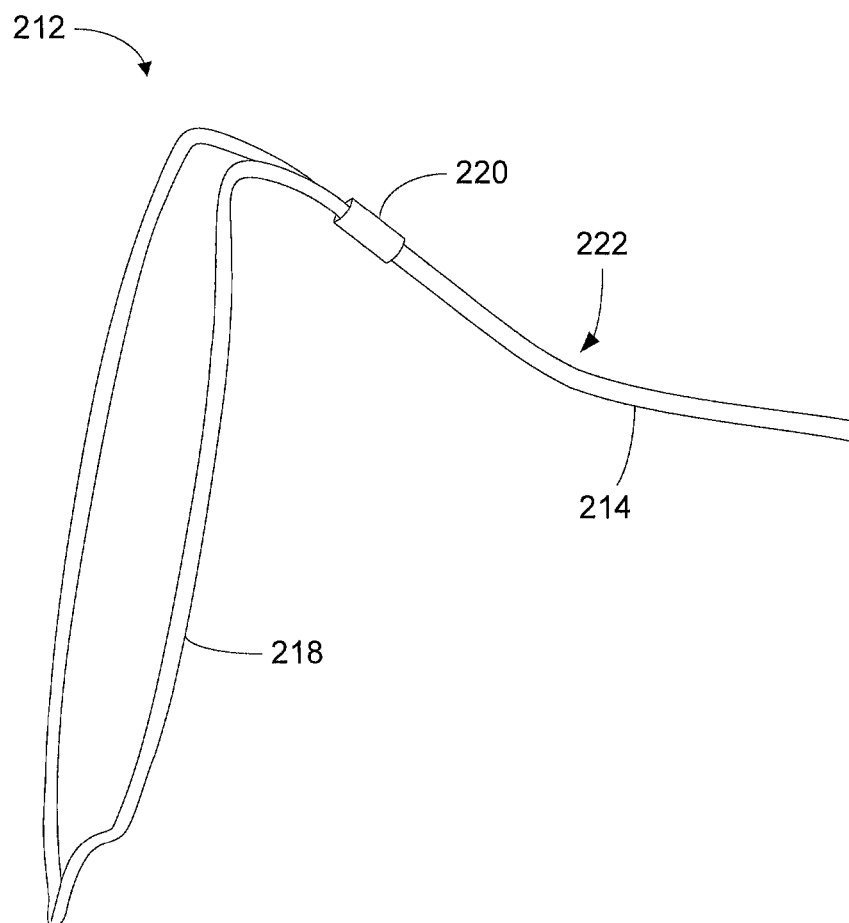


FIG. 2

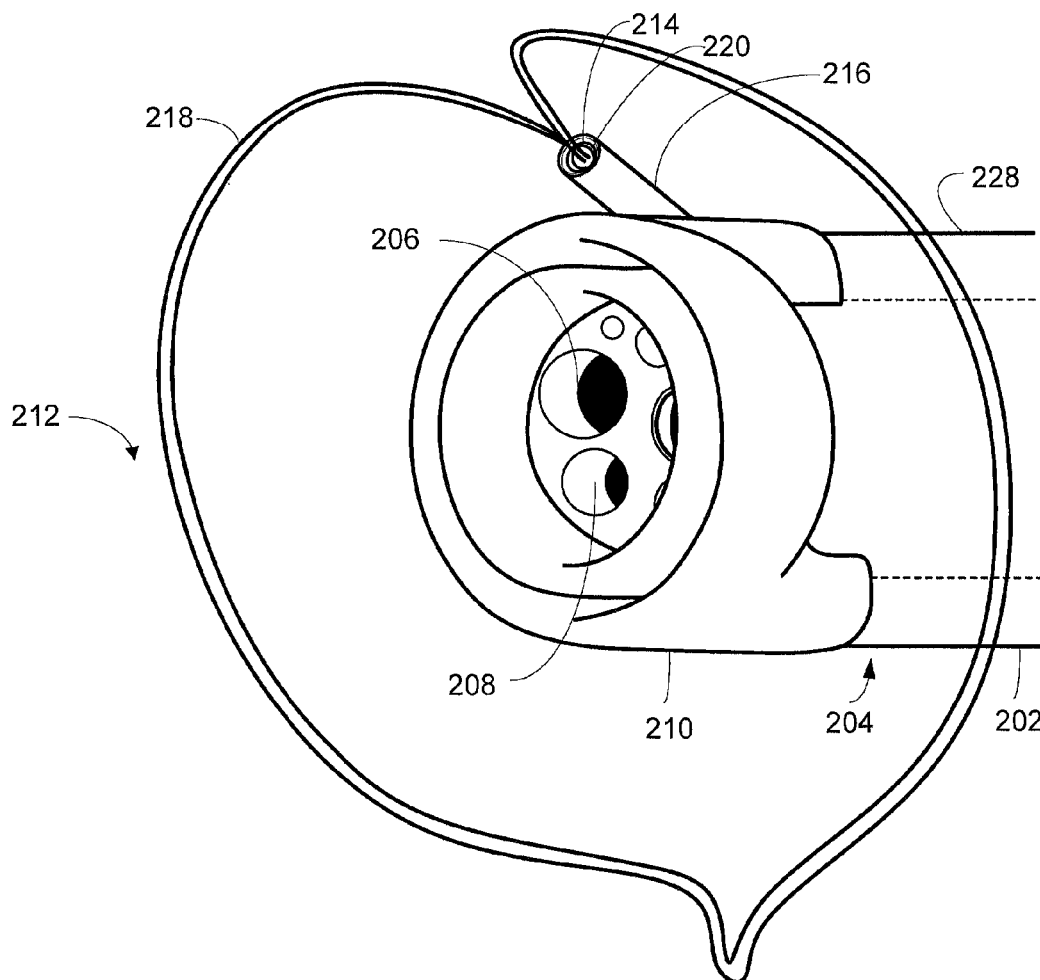


FIG. 3

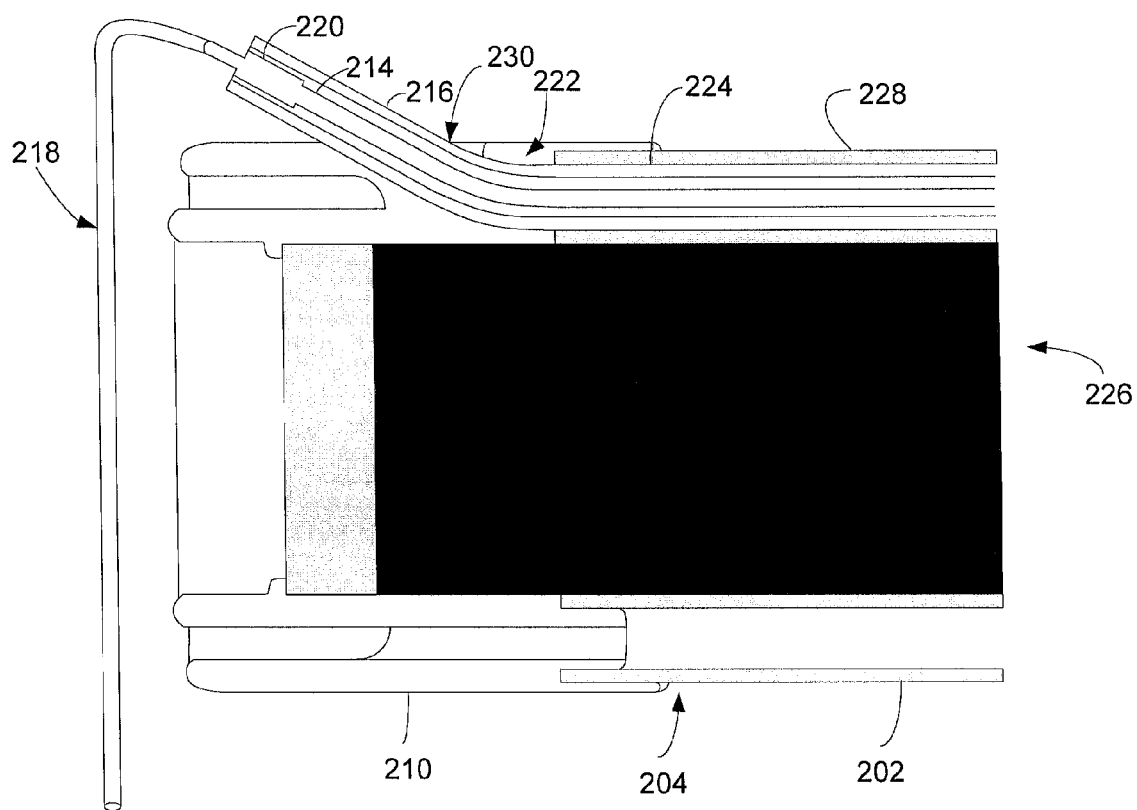


FIG. 4

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RESECTION DEVICES AND RELATED METHODS OF DEPLOYMENT

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 61/837,795, filed Jun. 21, 2013, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

FIELD OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present disclosure relates generally to resection devices and methods for deployment and, in particular, to a rotating and self-aligning snare configured for deployment for tissue resection.

BACKGROUND

Tissue resection procedures, such as polypectomy, are typically carried out by inserting introduction sheaths, such as endoscopes or laparoscopes, into the body of a patient through incisions or natural anatomical openings. Traditionally, such devices employ snares, typically designed as loops, for performing tissue resection procedures. For scenarios in which the tissue needs to be drawn out before the tissue can be ensnared, such devices may incorporate suction tube(s), employed in tandem with a snare for resection and retrieval of the resected tissue portion(s) from the patient's body.

In some implementations, snares, when deployed, expand into a circular loop, that may not be axially aligned with the operating ends of the endoscopic or laparoscopic attachments, such as suction tubes. Axial misalignment of a deployed snare loop, when used with an endoscopic attachment, sometimes mandates re-deployment of the snare until the snare loop axially aligns with the operating end of the endoscopic attachment, inside the patient's body cavity.

SUMMARY

Embodiments of the present disclosure relate to medical devices for performing tissue-ensnaring procedures during a surgical or medical procedure, e.g., tissue resection from inside a patient's body.

In accordance with an aspect of the present disclosure, a medical device is disclosed for resecting tissue. The device includes an elongate member defined by a proximal end, a distal end, one or more working channels extending from the proximal end to the distal end, and a lumen extending from the proximal end to the distal end, wherein the lumen bends radially outward from the elongate member, near the distal end; and a snare device comprising an actuation element and a snare loop, wherein the snare loop is positioned distal to the distal end of the elongate member and is coupled to an end of the actuation element protruding from the lumen; wherein the actuation element includes a bend at a distal end of the actuation element, wherein the bend in the actuation element interacts with the bend in the lumen to urge the snare loop into alignment with the distal end of the elongate member.

In accordance with another aspect of the disclosure, a snare device is disclosed for deployment through an endoscope and for resection of tissue. The device includes an actuation element configured to be advanced through a lumen extending through the endoscope and bends radially

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outward from the endoscope near a distal end of the endoscope; and a snare loop coupled to an end of the actuation element and configured to protrude from the lumen and be positioned distal to a distal end of the endoscope; wherein the actuation element is bent at a distal end and the bend in the actuation element is configured to interact with the bend in the lumen to urge the snare loop into alignment with the distal end of the endoscope.

In accordance with another aspect of the disclosure, a method is disclosed for resecting tissue using an elongate member and a snare assembly. The method includes advancing, into a patient orifice, an elongate member defined by a proximal end, a distal end, one or more working channels extending from the proximal end to the distal end, and a lumen extending from the proximal end to the distal end, wherein the lumen bends radially outward from the elongate member, near the distal end; and advancing, through the lumen, a snare device comprising an actuation element and a snare loop, wherein the snare loop is positioned distal to the distal end of the elongate member and is coupled to an end of the actuation element protruding from the lumen; wherein the actuation element includes a bend at a distal end of the actuation element, wherein the bend in the actuation element interacts with the bend in the lumen to urge the snare loop into alignment with the distal end of the elongate member.

Additional characteristics and advantages of the disclosure will be set forth in part in the description, which follows, and in part will be apparent from the description, or may be learned by practice of the disclosure.

It is to be understood that both the foregoing general description and the following detailed description are exemplary and explanatory only and are not restrictive of the disclosure, as claimed.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The accompanying drawings, which are incorporated in and constitute a part of this specification, illustrate exemplary embodiments of the present disclosure and together with the description, serve to explain principles of the disclosure.

FIG. 1 is a schematic view of a distal portion of a resection device, with an associated snare loop depicted in an expanded configuration, according to certain embodiments of the present disclosure.

FIG. 2 is a schematic view of an exemplary snare assembly with a snare loop depicted in an expanded configuration, according to certain embodiments of the present disclosure.

FIG. 3 is a perspective view of an exemplary resection device, incorporating the exemplary snare assembly of FIG. 2, according to certain embodiments of the present disclosure.

FIG. 4 is a cross-sectional side view of the exemplary resection device of FIG. 3, according to certain embodiments of the present disclosure.

DESCRIPTION OF EMBODIMENTS

Reference is now made in detail to embodiments of the present disclosure, examples of which are illustrated in the accompanying drawings. Wherever possible, the same reference numbers will be used throughout the drawings to refer to the same or like parts. The term "distal" refers to the end farthest away from a user when introducing a device into a patient. The term "proximal" refers to the end closest to the user when placing the device into the patient.

Overview

Embodiments of the present disclosure relate to medical or surgical devices used to retrieve and/or sever unwanted or target tissue as well as other unwanted or target material, such as stones, within a patient's body. For example, embodiments of the disclosed device may facilitate removal of unwanted tissue, such as cancerous polyps or lesions, from within a patient's body, including tissue disposed in a patient's body, e.g., on the mucosal walls of the colon, esophagus, stomach, or duodenum. A physician may also desire to resect tissue in order to conduct a biopsy or other examination. For convenience, the medical and surgical devices discussed here can be referred to as "resection devices," it being understood that such devices are equally useful for severing or removing unwanted or target tissue.

In some embodiments, a resection device may include an endoscope, endoscopic attachments (e.g., a suction ring cap), and a snare assembly. The endoscope may include a proximal end, a distal end, and a lumen extended therebetween. The lumen may include multiple working channels. The endoscopic attachments (e.g., the suction ring cap) may be inserted through one of multiple working channels, to be mounted on the distal end of the endoscope and define one or more working channels of the endoscope as a suction channel. The endoscope may incorporate another lumen of having a cylindrical cross-section and being proximal to the radial periphery of the endoscope. The cylindrical cross-sectional lumen may be substantially parallel to the radially outer surface of the endoscope, until the lumen curves radially outward at a distal end. The curvature imparted to the lumen may be toward the radially outer surface of the endoscope, extending the lumen through a slot provided on the radially outer peripheral surface of the endoscope, near the distal end of the endoscope.

The snare assembly may include a snare loop, an actuation element, and an actuation handle. The snare assembly may be introduced at the proximal end of the endoscope and advanced through the cylindrical cross sectional lumen. The actuation element and the snare loop may, in a collapsed configuration, propagate along the length of the curved lumen and emerge near the distal portion of the endoscope through a slot, protruding radially outward.

The actuation element of the snare may also have a pre-formed curvature having an angular bend similar to the curve of the cylindrical cross sectional lumen. The actuation member of the snare assembly may couple to the actuation handle at the proximal end and to the snare loop at the distal end of the endoscope. The snare loop, when deployed at the distal end of the endoscope, may expand to substantial circular shape. In one embodiment, the actuation element may be configured to rotate freely as compelled by forces generated between the curved portion of the lumen and the curved portion of the actuation element. In another embodiment, the actuation handle at the proximal end of the endoscope may be used to rotationally manipulate the actuation element, and seat the pre-formed curvature in the actuation element on the curve in the cylindrical cross-sectional lumen, near the distal portion of the endoscope, to align the expanded snare loop and the suction ring cap in substantially concentric arrangement. The pre-formed curvature of the lumen and the rotational manipulation of the actuation element may allow the deployed snare loop to be offset from the distal opening surface of the suction ring cap, but concentrically aligned with the suction ring cap. The rotation of the actuation element may be controlled by an actuating handle, such as, for example, a guidewire, a resilient mechanism like a spring, or any other suitable

mechanism. In various embodiments, the actuation handle may be cylindrical, rectangular, oval, elliptical, conical, and similar configurations.

In various embodiments of the disclosure, the operation of the resection device may be such that the portion of the tissue drawn by the suction channel toward the suction ring cap may be captured, by collapsing the concentrically aligned snare loop around the desired tissue portion, so it may then be resected by the snare. Those skilled in the art will appreciate that the endoscope and the snare assembly may include additional mechanisms and/or other inflatable structures, without departing from the scope of the present disclosure.

Exemplary Embodiments

FIG. 1 is a schematic diagram of an exemplary resection device **100**. The resection device **100** may be configured to be introduced into a patient's body through an incision or a suitable natural opening. In addition, the resection device **100** may be configured to be advanced to a desired location within a patient's body with the aid of a suitable introduction sheath, such as an endoscope **102** having a distal end **104**, a proximal end (not shown), and one or more working channels **106**, **108** extending therebetween.

An operator may introduce one or more medical/surgical devices through one or more working channels **106**, **108** of endoscope **102** to extend out of the distal end **104** of the endoscope **102**. The operator may also mount an attachment on the distal end **104** of the endoscope **102**. For example, during a resection procedure, an operator may attach a suction ring cap **110** to the distal end **104** of the endoscope **102**, thus rendering one or more channels **106**, **108** as a suction channel. Another medical or surgical device, such as a snare assembly **112** may be introduced, for example, into another lumen/channel (not shown). Additionally, from time to time during the procedure, the operator may insert a light source, a camera, an injector, or a morcellator within the one or more channels **106**, **108**. The proximal end (not shown) of the endoscope **102** may be connected to a hub assembly or handle (not shown) for operating the endoscope **102** and the various devices and attachments inserted into or mounted on endoscope **102**, collectively or individually.

The snare assembly **112** may further include a lumen **116**, an actuation element **114**, an actuation handle (not shown), and a snare loop **118**. The actuation element **114** may extend through the entire length of the lumen **116**, disposed within a working channel (not shown) of the endoscope **102**, and may be manipulated through the actuation handle (not shown), at the proximal end (not shown) of the endoscope **102**. Manipulation of the actuation element **114** through the actuation handle may deploy the snare loop **118** at the distal end **104** of the endoscope **102**.

The deployed snare loop **118** may expand into a particular shape, such as a substantial circular shape that, in some cases, may not be concentric with the suction ring cap **110**. For example, FIG. 1 depicts the snare loop **118** as being out of concentric alignment with the suction ring cap **110**, or the distal end **104** of endoscope **102**. The axial misalignment of the snare loop **118** may cause various disadvantages, such as in not allowing snare loop **118** to circumferentially grip around targeted tissue, drawn towards the suction ring cap **110** by the suction channel **106**, **108**. Accordingly, a pre-formed actuation element or feature (described in more detail below) may be incorporated into the snare assembly **112** and/or endoscope **102** to cause the snare loop **118** to align with the operating end of the endoscope **102** during

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operations, thereby enabling expanded snare loop **118** to effectively ensnare target tissue, drawn toward the suction ring cap **110**.

FIG. **2** depicts an exemplary snare assembly **212** of a resection device (not shown), in an expanded snare loop configuration, according to principles of the present disclosure. The snare assembly **212** may include an actuation element **214**, a snare loop **218**, an interface **220** of the actuation element **214** with the snare loop **218**, and an actuation handle (not shown). In various embodiments, the actuation element **214** may include, without limitation, a guidewire, a spring mechanism, an actuation tube, a bracket, or a plate with one or more holes and other similar structure(s). The interface **220** may act as a coupling between the actuation element **214** and the snare loop **218**. In one example, a push-pull mechanism, such as an actuation wire, may be employed as the actuation element **214** for either manually or automatically expanding and/or retracting the snare loop **218**. The manipulation(s) of the actuation element **214** may change the area captured by the snare loop **218** without displacing the snare loop **218** with respect to the targeted tissue.

According to certain aspects of the present disclosure, the actuation element **214** may be angularly curved or imparted with a predetermined obtuse angle, with respect to a longitudinal axis of the actuation element **214**, to give it a pre-formed curvature **222**. The exact location of the pre-formed curvature **222**, along the length of the actuation element **214**, may depend upon the structure of a lumen (not shown), through which the actuation element **214** may be inserted in the endoscope (not shown). The actuation element **214** may be fabricated out of any shape memory alloy that can alter the shape of the actuation element **214** through temperature variations or equivalent controlling factors, to impart the pre-formed curvature **222** at the desired location of the actuation element **214**. In one embodiment, the pre-formed curvature **222** may be defined by a radius that controls how gently or sharply the actuation element **214** curves. In one embodiment, the pre-formed curvature **222** may be defined by a relatively short radius that causes a relatively sharp or hard angle in the actuation element **214**. In another embodiment, the pre-formed curvature **222** may be defined by a relatively long radius that causes a relatively gentle or sloping curve in the actuation element **214**.

In one embodiment, the snare loop **218** may be a wire configured to sever or retrieve unwanted tissue. Further, the snare loop **218** may be configured in a variety of shapes, such as a continuous loop, multiple loops, a basket, polygonal loops, non-symmetrical loops, and the like. In one implementation, the snare loop **218** may be substantially circular in shape, however, other configurations may include ellipsoids. In another embodiment, the snare loop **218** may be configured for electrocauterization procedures to resect tissue. For example, the snare loop **218** may be configured to conduct sufficient electric current to generate an amount of heat desired for electrocautery. The snare loop **218** may be substantially hollow with holes disposed on a surface (e.g., an internal surface) to provide irrigation or lubrication during electrocauterization or any other medical or surgical procedure. Furthermore, the snare loop **218** may be configured to withstand repeated heat cycling without developing "hot spots" and breaking down. Further, the general characteristics of suitable materials and configurations of the snare loop **218** known in the art may be used to select adequate materials and configurations for snare loop **218**.

In one embodiment, the snare loop **218** may be made of a suitable biocompatible material, e.g., stainless steel or

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NITINOL. The snare loop **218** may be coated with an antimicrobial covering to inhibit any microbial growth on its surface. For instance, the coating may include an antibacterial covering, which may contain an inorganic antibiotic agent, disposed in a polymeric matrix that adheres the antibiotic agent onto the surface of the snare loop **218**. Furthermore, a drug-releasing coating may be applied to the surface of the snare loop **218** for assisting in delivery of drugs to the targeted tissue during operation. The wire of which the snare loop **218** is formed may be sufficiently flexible to retract the snare loop **218** into the collapsed position.

FIG. **3** shows a resection device, according to an embodiment of the present disclosure. The resection device may be configured to be introduced into a patient's body through an incision or a suitable natural opening. In addition, the resection device may be configured to be advanced to a desired location within a patient's body with the aid of a suitable introduction sheath, such as an endoscope **202** having a distal end **204**, a proximal end (not shown), and one or more working channels **206**, **208** extending therebetween. In one embodiment, the resection device may include an endoscope **202** and a snare assembly **212** (as shown in FIG. **2**). FIG. **3** depicts snare assembly **212** as being concentrically aligned with distal end **204** of endoscope **202**.

Endoscope **202** may include one or more working channels **206**, **208** through which an operator may either introduce one or more medical or surgical devices to extend out of the distal end **204** of the endoscope **202**. In certain embodiments, an operator may also use an attachment to be mounted on the distal end **204** of the endoscope **202**. For example, during a resection procedure, an operator may attach a suction ring cap **210** to the distal end **204** of the endoscope **202**, thus rendering one or more of channels **206**, **208** as a suction channel. Another medical or surgical device, such as a snare assembly **212**, may be introduced, for example, into another lumen/channel (not shown). Additionally, from time to time during the procedure, the operator may insert a light source, a camera, an injector, a morcellator, or other device, within the one or more channels. The proximal end (not shown) of the endoscope **202** may be connected to a hub assembly or handle (not shown) for operating the endoscope **202** as well as the various inserted devices and attachments collectively or individually.

In some of the embodiments, one or more of the lumen(s) (not shown) may be disposed in the endoscope **202**, proximal to the radially outer periphery of the endoscope **202**. The lumen may be of cylindrical cross-section and substantially parallel to the radially outer surface **228** of the endoscope **202**, until the lumen is curved radially outward at a distal end of the endoscope **202**. The curvature imparted to the lumen may be toward the radially outer surface **228** of the endoscope **202**, extending along the lumen to a slot provided (not shown) on the radially outer surface **228** of the endoscope **202**, near the distal end **204** of the endoscope **202**.

The snare assembly **212** may further include a lumen **216**, an actuation element **214**, an actuation handle (not shown), and a snare loop **218**. In one embodiment, the lumen **216** may be fixedly attached to the endoscope **202** and provided with a permanent curvature at its distal end. Alternatively, the lumen **216** may be introduced from the proximal end (not shown) of the endoscope **202**, into the cylindrical cross-sectional lumen (not shown). The lumen **216** may extend along the length of the lumen, substantially parallel and proximal to the radially outer surface **228** of the endoscope **202** until curving radially outward near the distal end **204** of the endoscope **202**. The lumen **216** may be a flexible tube

that acquires a straight profile when being inserted through endoscope 202, but acquires a curved shape at its distal end, when fully inserted and advanced through endoscope 202. The lumen 216 may emerge from a slot or orifice (not shown) provided at the radially outer surface 228 of the endoscope 202 near the distal end 204 of the endoscope 202. The lumen 216 may be fabricated from silicone, polyurethane, PVC, and/or other such flexible biocompatible polymers and materials.

In some embodiments, the actuation element 214 may be advanced through the entire length of the lumen 216 and can be manipulated through the actuation handle (not shown), at the proximal end (not shown) of the endoscope 202. Manipulation of the actuation element 214 through the actuation handle may deploy the snare loop 218 at the distal end 204 of the endoscope 202. In some embodiments, the actuation element 214 may be imparted with a pre-formed curvature, equivalent to the angle of the curve of the lumen 216. In certain embodiments, the location of the curve along the length of the actuation element 214 may be precisely the same as the curvature of the lumen 216. In one embodiment, the actuation element 214 may be fabricated of shape memory alloy, such as NITINOL, that, by virtue temperature-dependent properties, may allow the actuation element 214 to be imparted with the pre-formed curvature. Thus, actuation element 214 may adopt its pre-formed curvature after being introduced through the curved lumen 216, along with the collapsed state snare loop 218 and the interface 220. In certain embodiments, the actuation element 214 may acquire its predetermined angular shape or curvature at a location along its length such that the curved portion is aligned with the curved portion of the lumen 216 when the actuation element 214 is fully deployed in the endoscope 202. In one embodiment, the actuation element 214, along with the collapsed state snare loop 218 and interface 220, may be introduced through the proximal end of the endoscope 202 into the curved lumen 216 using any push-pull or similar actuation mechanism, which may be manipulated from the actuation handle (not shown) at the proximal end of the endoscope 202.

FIG. 4 depicts a cross-sectional side view of a schematic of an exemplary resection device, according to an embodiment of the present disclosure. The resection device may include an endoscope 202, having a proximal end (not shown), a distal end 204, and a lumen 226 extending therebetween. The lumen 226 may further include multiple working channels (206, 208, as shown in FIG. 3), which an operator may use to introduce one or more medical or surgical devices or attachments to be mounted or used at the distal end 204 of the endoscope 202. The medical/surgical devices or attachments may be introduced from the proximal end (not shown) of the endoscope 202, to extend out of the distal end 204 of the endoscope 202.

In some embodiments, apart from the working channels (206, 208, as shown in FIG. 3) available in the lumen 226, additional lumen(s) 224 may be disposed in proximity to the radially outer surface 228 of the endoscope 202. One such lumen 224 of cylindrical cross-section may be disposed in the endoscope 202, between the proximal end (not shown) and slot 230, provided on the radially outer surface 228. Lumen 224 may terminate at or around its distal end at a slot 228 provided on the radially outer surface 228 of the endoscope 202. As described above, lumen 216 may extend through lumen 224 and be imparted with an angular curve at a predetermined location, along its length, proximal to the distal end 204 of the endoscope 202. The imparted curve may be at an obtuse angle with the longitudinal axis of the

endoscope 202. The angle and the precise location at which the curvature is introduced in the lumen 216 may depend upon factors, such as, the location of slot 228, and a desired position of snare loop 218.

As described above, during a resection procedure, an operator may introduce a snare assembly 212 through the lumen 224, from the proximal end (not shown) of the endoscope 202. The snare assembly 212 may include lumen 216, an actuation element 214, a snare loop 218, an intersection 220 between the actuation element 214 and the snare loop 218, and an actuation handle (not shown). The lumen 216 and the actuation element 214 may each be angularly curved, at locations along their lengths such that they align when the actuation element 214 and its snare loop 218 are fully deployed.

As described above, the curvature 222 may be imparted into actuation element 214 before the snare assembly 212 is introduced in the lumen 224. The actuation handle (not shown) at the proximal end (not shown) of the endoscope 202 can be manipulated to advance the snare assembly 212 along the cylindrical lumen 224. As the actuation element 214, with the pre-formed curvature 222, reaches the curve of the lumen 216, longitudinal force may be applied to the actuation element 214 and or the lumen 216 to cause the snare loop 218 to emerge from the lumen 224, through the slot 230, provisioned on the radially outer surface 228. Moreover, as actuation element 214, with the pre-formed curvature 222, reaches the curve of the lumen 216, respective forces between the actuation element 214 and lumen 216, by virtue of their respective curved portions, may cause actuation element 214 to rotate to a desired orientation that aligns snare loop 218 concentrically with the distal end 204 of endoscope 202.

Specifically, the rotational movement of the actuation element 214 may align the expanded snare loop 218, e.g., concentrically, with an opening in the suction ring cap 210 or generally with a distal end of endoscope 202. In one embodiment, an actuation handle may be used to rotationally manipulate the actuation element 214 for concentric alignment of the snare loop 218, and may be included in the actuation hub (not shown) used for overall deployment of the resection device 200 or individual controls. In another embodiment, the pre-formed curvature 222 of actuation element 214 may act in conjunction with the curve of the lumen 216 to automatically cause the snare loop 218 to become concentric (or otherwise aligned) with the lumen 226 and the distal end 204 of the endoscope 202. In some embodiments, the deployed snare loop 218 may be longitudinally offset from the opening surface of the suction ring cap 210 to provide a better circumferential grip around the targeted tissue.

It should be apparent that the resection device 200 is useful to perform surgical, diagnostic, and therapeutic procedures in a wide variety of bodily locations. For example, removal of polyps detected during a routine colonoscopy could quickly be accomplished using the method discussed above. Additionally, stones or unwanted deposits can be engaged and removed from a variety of body lumens such as ureters, bladders, or the urethra. These and other procedures can be accomplished within the scope of the present disclosure.

Embodiments of the present disclosure may be used in various medical, surgical, or non-medical procedure, including any medical procedure where appropriate resection of undesired or target body tissue is desired. In addition, at least certain aspects of the aforementioned embodiments may be

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combined with other aspects of the embodiments, or removed, without departing from the scope of the disclosure.

Other embodiments of the present disclosure will be apparent to those skilled in the art from consideration of the specification and practice of the embodiments disclosed herein. It is intended that the specification and examples be considered as exemplary only, with a true scope and spirit of the disclosure being indicated by the following claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A medical device for resecting tissue, the device comprising:

an elongate member defined by a proximal end, a distal end, one or more working channels extending from the proximal end to the distal end, and a lumen extending along an inside of a radially outer surface of the elongate member from the proximal end to the distal end, wherein the lumen bends radially outward from the elongate member through a slot in the outer surface near the distal end of the elongate member; and

a snare device comprising an actuation element and a snare loop, wherein the snare loop is positioned distal to the distal end of the elongate member and is coupled to a distal end of the actuation element protruding from the lumen;

wherein the lumen bends radially outward near the distal end of the actuation element; and

wherein the actuation element includes a bend at a distal end of the actuation element, wherein the bend in the actuation element interacts with the bend in the lumen to urge the snare loop into alignment with the distal end of the elongate member.

2. The medical device of claim 1, wherein the lumen extends along a longitudinal axis radially outward from a central axis of the elongate member and bends radially away from the central axis of the elongate member near the distal end of the actuation element.

3. The medical device of claim 1, wherein the actuation element is configured to rotate freely such that relative forces between the bend in the actuation element and the bend in the lumen can cause the actuation element to rotate.

4. The medical device of claim 1, wherein the bends of the actuation element and the lumen are both curved according to a common radius of curvature or bent at a common angle.

5. The medical device of claim 1, wherein the actuation element is curved at a location along its length selected to cause the snare loop to be longitudinally offset from the distal end of the elongate member by a predetermined amount when the bend in the actuation element is aligned with the bend in the lumen.

6. The medical device of claim 1, wherein the distal end of the elongate member contains a suction cap and the snare loop is configured to be concentrically aligned with the suction cap when the bend in the actuation element is aligned with the bend in the lumen.

7. The medical device of claim 1, wherein the actuation element and the snare loop are formed from a shape memory alloy material.

8. The medical device of claim 1, wherein the actuation element and the snare loop are configured to be collapsed into a relatively straight configuration when being advanced or retracted through a straight portion of the lumen.

9. The medical device of claim 1, wherein the actuation element is configured to be advanced through the lumen until a predetermined position at which the actuation element rotates to self-align the snare loop and return to an original curvature matching the bend in the lumen.

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10. The medical device of claim 1, wherein the lumen includes a tubular portion fixedly attached to the endoscope.

11. The medical device of claim 1, wherein the lumen includes a flexible tubular portion configured to be advanced through the elongate member to a region near the distal end of the elongate member.

12. A snare device for deployment through an endoscope and for resection of tissue, the device comprising: an endoscope;

an actuation element configured to be advanced through a lumen extending along an inside of a radially outer surface of the endoscope, wherein the lumen bends radially outward through a slot in the outer surface of the endoscope near a distal end of the endoscope; and a snare loop coupled to an end of the actuation element and configured to protrude from the lumen and be positioned distal to a distal end of the endoscope;

wherein the actuation element is bent at a distal end and the bend in the actuation element is configured to interact with the bend in the lumen to urge the snare loop into alignment with the distal end of the endoscope.

13. The snare device of claim 12, wherein the actuation element is configured to be advanced through the lumen, wherein the lumen extends along a longitudinal axis radially outward from a central axis of the endoscope and bends radially away from the central axis of the endoscope.

14. The snare device of claim 12, wherein the actuation element is configured to rotate freely such that relative forces between the bend in the actuation element and the bend in the lumen can cause the actuation element to rotate.

15. The snare device of claim 12, wherein the bends of the actuation element and the lumen are both curved according to a common radius of curvature or bent at a common angle.

16. The snare device of claim 12, wherein the actuation element is curved at a location along its length selected to cause the snare loop to be longitudinally offset from the distal end of the elongate member by a predetermined amount when the bend in the actuation element is aligned with the bend in the lumen.

17. The snare device of claim 12, wherein the actuation element and the snare loop are formed from a shape memory alloy material.

18. The snare device of claim 12, wherein the actuation element and the snare loop are configured to be collapsed into a relatively straight configuration when being advanced or retracted through a straight portion of the lumen.

19. The snare device of claim 12, wherein the actuation element is configured to be advanced through the lumen until a predetermined position at which the actuation element is rotatable to rotate to self-align the snare loop and return to an original bending state matching the bend in the lumen.

20. A method for resecting tissue using an elongate member and a snare assembly, the method comprising:

advancing, into a patient orifice, an elongate member defined by a proximal end, a distal end, one or more working channels extending from the proximal end to the distal end, and a lumen extending along an inside of a radially outer surface of the elongate member from the proximal end to the distal end, wherein the lumen bends radially outward from the elongate member through a slot in the outer surface near the distal end of the elongate member; and

advancing, through the lumen, a snare device comprising an actuation element and a snare loop, wherein the lumen bends radially outward near a distal end of the

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actuation element when the actuation element is
advanced through the lumen, wherein the snare loop is
positioned distal to the distal end of the elongate
member and is coupled to the distal end of the actuation
element protruding from the lumen; 5
wherein the actuation element includes a bend at a distal
end of the actuation element, wherein the bend in the
actuation element interacts with the bend in the lumen
to urge the snare loop into alignment with the distal end
of the elongate member. 10

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